

George Washington National Forest  
Forest Plan Revision



POTENTIAL WILDERNESS INVENTORY

SUMMARY

The ID Team and I acknowledge that there is great latitude in the handbook criteria for identifying potential wilderness areas in the east. See FSH 1909.12, Chapter 70 (Effective January 31, 2007). It is not my intent to take this discretion lightly, but to spend money on evaluations where I feel it is most beneficial, looking for the best candidates that meet the intent of the Wilderness Act of 1964. Given this the Forest developed guidance on how to conduct the inventory. This guidance was followed and this paper documents which areas are on the potential wilderness inventory.

I hereby approve 37 areas as being in the potential wilderness inventory; totaling about 378,229 acres of National Forest System acres.

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MAUREEN HYZER  
Forest Supervisor

DATE

# CHAPTER 1: GEORGE WASHINGTON STUDY RESULTS

## A. Introduction

The following inventory identifies areas meeting certain criteria for potential wilderness areas. Only the Congress can make the decision to designate wilderness. As the responsible official, the Forest Supervisor is to consider all NFS lands possessing wilderness characteristics for recommendation as potential wilderness areas during plan revision.

Identification of potential wilderness areas and wilderness recommendations has always been an integral part of the NFS planning process. Under the 2008 rule section 219.7(a)(6)(ii), the responsible official is to ensure that, unless otherwise provided by law, all NFS lands possessing wilderness characteristics be considered for recommendation as potential wilderness areas during plan revision. This study identifies those NFS lands possessing wilderness characteristics.

The Forest Service directives (FSH 1909.12, chapter 70) provide the detailed criteria for the identification of potential wilderness areas. Interpretation of these criteria is contained in the Forest's Guidance paper.

B. Areas Included In The Inventory

Table 1 shows the George Washington's potential wilderness inventory, consisting of 37.

Potential Wilderness Name	Total GWJEFF Acres	Road Mileage Per 1,000 Acres	Total Miles of Road	Roaded Natural Acres	Semi Primitive Motorized Acres	Semi Primitive Non Motorized Acres	Semi Primitive Core Total Acres	Subsurface Federal Mineral Percentage	Subsurface Private Mineral Right Acres	Jeff NF Acres
Adams Peak	8,226	0.45	3.7	3,801	407	4,018	4,425	100	0	0
Archer Knob	7,110	0.32	2.3	2,669	4,441	0	4,441	100	0	0
Beards Mountain	10,152	0.26	2.6	3,173	1,851	5,128	6,978	100	0	0
Beech Lick Knob	14,087	0.46	6.5	4,585	3,775	5,726	9,502	92	1,158	0
Big Schloss	28,347	0.50	14.1	8,632	9,974	9,741	19,715	75	7,118	0
Crawford Knob	14,851	0.21	3.1	3,023	2,522	9,306	11,828	100	0	0
Dolly Ann	9,524	0.48	4.6	3,491	1,361	4,672	6,033	100	0	0
Duncan Knob	5,973	0.46	2.8	2,741	3,232	0	3,232	100	0	0
Elliott Knob	11,070	0.39	4.3	3,978	3,402	3,691	7,093	100	0	0
Galford Gap	6,689	0.30	3.3	1,770	1,132	3,787	4,919	100	0	0
Gum Run	14,547	0.37	5.4	3,750	6,631	4,166	10,797	83	2,529	0
High Knob	18,447	0.46	8.6	6,686	8,032	3,729	11,761	100	0	0
Jerkentight	27,314	0.46	12.5	11,473	8,574	7,268	15,841	90	2,617	0
Kelley Mountain	12,892	0.15	2.0	5,103	2,792	4,997	7,789	84	2,126	0
Laurel Fork	10,236	0.21	2.1	3,240	631	6,365	6,996	100	0	0
Little Alleghany	15,395	0.18	2.8	6,613	1,501	7,280	8,782	98	374	0
Little Mare Mountain	11,918	0.50	6.0	6,934	3,043	1,941	4,984	100	0	0
Little River	30,227	0.40	12.1	9,727	4,385	16,116	20,500	90	3,128	0
Massanutten North	16,530	0.49	8.1	5,382	4,563	6,585	11,148	91	1,465	0
Oak Knob - Hone Quarry Ridge	16,343	0.44	7.3	7,539	4,273	4,531	8,804	96	617	0
Oliver Mountain	13,049	0.19	2.4	3,852	20	9,176	9,197	100	0	0
Paddy Knob	5,987	0.28	1.7	2,703	1,259	2,026	3,284	100	0	0
Potts Mountain	7,863	0.33	2.6	3,372	4,491	0	4,491	99	91	844
Ramseys Draft Addition	19,072	0.29	5.6	8,075	1,717	9,280	10,997	70	5,784	0
Rich Hole Addition	12,165	0.38	4.6	5,072	480	6,613	7,093	100	0	0
Rich Patch	5,625	0.04	0.2	1,617	0	4,008	4,008	100	0	4,754
Rough Mountain Addition	2,063	0.30	0.6	1,311	498	254	752	100	0	0
Saint Marys North	3,006	0.00	0.0	1,020	1,983	3	1,986	79	630	0
Saint Marys South	1,651	0.00	0.0	762	0	889	889	80	333	0
Saint Marys West	278	0.00	0.0	278	0	0	0	100	0	0
Shaws Ridge	7,268	0.39	2.8	3,315	1,878	2,076	3,954	100	4	0
Shawvers Run Addition	84	0.00	0.0	84	0	0	0	100	0	0
Three Ridges Addition North	83	0.00	0.0	79	3	0	3	100	0	0
Three Ridges Addition South	187	0.00	0.0	131	0	56	56	100	0	0
Three Ridges Addition Southwest	9	0.00	0.0	9	0	0	0	100	0	0
Three Ridges Addition West	90	0.00	0.0	90	0	0	0	100	0	0
Three Sisters	9,871	0.44	4.4	3,647	1,249	4,975	6,224	95	491	0
TOTAL GWJEFF ACRES	378,229									5,598
TOTAL GW ACRES ONLY	372,631									

C. Areas Eliminated From Inventory

TO BE COMPLETED